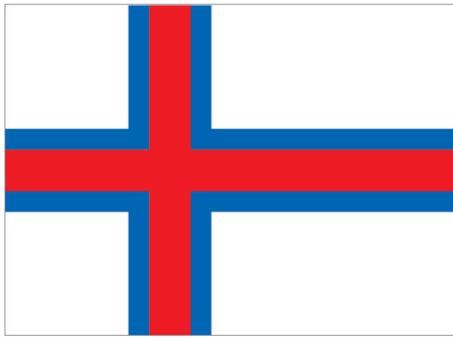




FAROE ISLANDS



INTRODUCTION

The population of the Faroe Islands is largely descended from Viking settlers who arrived in the 9th century. The islands have been connected politically to Denmark since the 14th century.

GOVERNMENT

Chief of State

Queen MARGRETHE II of Denmark represented by High Commissioner Lene Moyell JOHANSEN

Head of Government

Prime Minister Bardhur A STEIG NIELSEN

Government Type

parliamentary democracy (Faroese Parliament); part of the Kingdom of Denmark

Capital

Torshavn

Legislature

unicameral Faroese Parliament or Logting (33 seats); Faroe Islands elect 2 members to the Danish Parliament

GEOGRAPHY

Area

Total: 1,393 sq km
Land: 1,393 sq km
Water: 0 sq km

Climate

mild winters, cool summers; usually overcast; foggy, windy

Natural Resources

fish, whales, hydropower, possible oil and gas

ECONOMY

Economic Overview

high-income Danish territorial economy; party neither to the EU nor the Schengen Area; associate Nordic Council member; very low unemployment; unique foreign ownership allowance in fishing industry; known salmon exporter; growing IT industries

GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) \$2 billion (2014 est.)

GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) \$40,000 (2014 est.)

Industries - fishing, fish processing, tourism, small ship repair and refurbishment, handicrafts

Agricultural products - potatoes, mutton, sheep skins, sheep offals, beef, sheep fat, cattle offals, cattle hides, cattle fat

Exports \$1.184 billion (2016 est.)

fish and fish products

partners: Russia 26%, UK 14%, Germany 8%, China 8%, Spain 7%, Denmark 6%, US 5% (2017)

Imports \$978.4 million (2016 est.)

household goods, machinery, transport equipment, fuels, raw materials and semi-manufactures, cars

partners: Denmark 33%, China 11%, Germany 8%, Poland 7%, Norway 7%, Ireland 5% (2017)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY

Population

51,940 (July 2021 est.)

Population Growth

0.62% (2021 est.)

Ethnicity

Faroese 85.9% (Scandinavian and Anglo-Saxon descent), Danish 8.2%, other Nordic 1.4%, other 4.5% (includes Filipino, Romanian, Polish) (2021 est.)

Language

Faroese 93.8% (derived from Old Norse), Danish 3.2%, other 3% (2011 est.)

Religion

Christian 89.3% (predominantly Evangelical Lutheran), other 1%, none 3.8%, unspecified 6% (2011 est.)

